

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Kremmling Field Office
P O Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-LLCON02000-2014-033-CX

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: NA

PROJECT NAME: Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center Hemophilia Leadership Event

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

T. 1 S., R. 81 W., Sec. 7;

T. 1 S., R. 82 W., Sec. 12, 13, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 33;

T. 2 S., R. 82 W., Sec. 4, 5, 6, 7

Upper Colorado SRMA, from Pumphouse Recreation Site to Rancho del Rio in Grand County, Colorado.

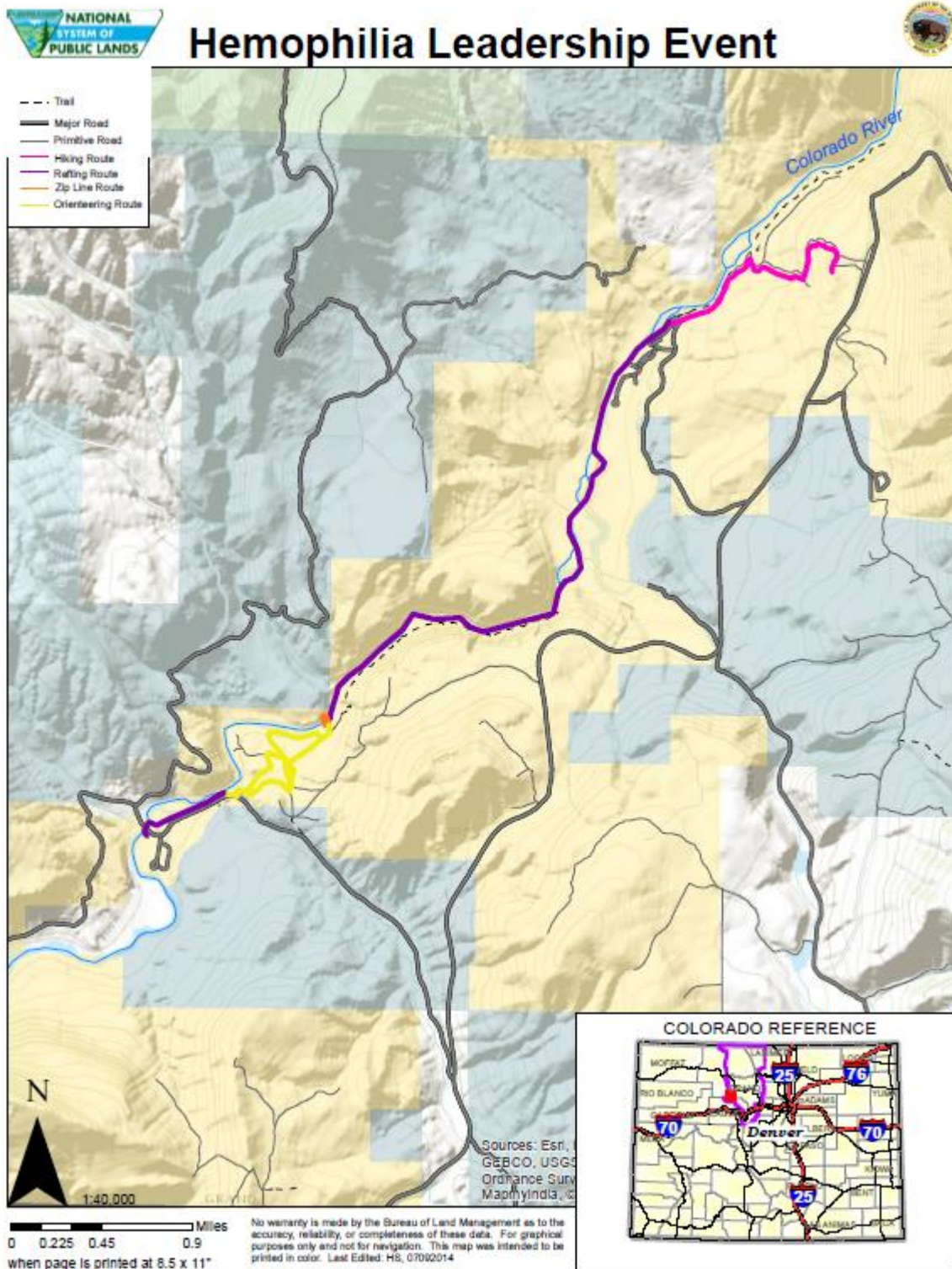
APPLICANT: Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: The proposed Hemophilia Leadership Event would be issued under a Special Recreation Permit to Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center to conduct a multi-sport event for people with Hemophilia. The event would occur July 17th and 18th. The event would have 48 kids and 8 adults in groups of 8-10 and 10 support staff for a total of 66 people involved with the event. The proposed event will be a land and water based adventure course on and adjacent to the river. The course will start at the large campsite at Inspiration Flats and head down the 4x4 road to the river. The participants will walk their way to Pumphouse using the existing Gore Canyon Trail. At Pumphouse Launch 3, they will jump into rafts and float down the river to a location just upstream of the Warm Springs. At that point, there will be multiple zip lines stretched across the river for participants to get to the west side of the river. Once on the west bank they will take rafts back to the east side, and then hike/orienteer to the Radium Road. At the Radium Road/Sheephorn Creek, they will get back in the rafts and raft to Rancho del Rio. The ropes for zip lining will be high enough to not impede river floaters. All equipment will be removed from the area once the event is complete.

All routes that would be walked (two-track from Trough Road down Inspiration Flats, Gore Canyon Trail, and the established trails above the Warm Springs) would all remain open in the proposed RMP for walking and horse use.

The permit would include the following special stipulations:

1. If any land is used for the event which is owned or managed by other parties besides the BLM, authorization letters will be received in the Kremmling Field Office before a permit is issued.
2. All floatboating vessels (boats, boating gear, and employees) for the event would be supplied by a BLM KFO permitted outfitter in good standing.



PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with (43 CFR 1610.5-3, BLM 1601.08) the following plan:

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

Decision Number/Page: Page II B 7a, Page 9

Decision Language: “To ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreational opportunities which the public seeks and which are not readily available from other sources, to reduce the impacts of recreational use on fragile and unique resource values, and to provide for visitor safety, and resource interpretation.”

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 2, Appendix 1.

1.5 H. Recreation Management

(1) Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan. This CX cannot be used for commercial boating permits along Wild and Scenic Rivers. This CX cannot be used for the establishment or issuance of Special Recreation Permits for “Special Area” management (43 CFR 2932.5).

I considered the number of people, floatboaters, and hikers in the event and the segment of the river and land into the proposed action. I reached the decision that the proposed action would have no potential for significant impacts.

The Proposed Action has been reviewed with the list of extraordinary circumstances (43 CFR 46.215) described in the table below.

Extraordinary Circumstance	YES	NO
a) Have significant adverse effects on public health and safety.		X
b) Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands; floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X

Extraordinary Circumstance	YES	NO
c) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.		X
d) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
e) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
f) Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
g) Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau of office.		X
h) Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		X
i) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
j) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations		X
k) Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites.		X
l) Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species.		X

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

The Proposed Action was presented to, and reviewed by, the Kremmling Field Office interdisciplinary team on 07/07/2014. A complete list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the Kremmling Field Office. The table below lists resource specialists who provided additional remarks.

Name	Title	Resource	Date
Bill B. Wyatt	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns	7/10/2014
Paula Belcher	Hydrologist	Soil, Water, Air, and Riparian	07/14/2014
Darren Long	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Wildlife Species	07/14/2014
Hannah	Outdoor Recreation	Recreation, Wild and Scenic	07/07/2014

Schechter	Planner	Rivers, Visual Resources	
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REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: The proposed action is on the same trails that are cleared for the World Team Sports event with BLM inventory report #CR-08-14.

Native American Religious Concerns: To date no tribe has identified any area of traditional cultural concern.

Special Status Wildlife Species: This proposed action would not impact any threatened, endangered or sensitive status wildlife species.

Special Status Plant Species: A small colony of Harrington's penstemon (*Penstemon harringtonii*) does exist near the starting point of the race. Impacts to this species would be avoided by locating people and equipment at a staging point on the other side of the road to mitigate direct and indirect impacts to this species.

Riparian/Wetland Resources: In 2013, the BLM obtained a 404 permit for the construction of a parking lot, access road, and boat ramp at the Radium Recreation Site. To help offset impacts to wetland vegetation, the BLM agreed to try and protect riparian vegetation upstream from the Radium bridge, including the Sheephorn Creek confluence. Private recreational boaters use this upstream area to avoid the congestion and the fees at the developed Radium Site. Due to safety issues with participants walking on Radium Road, participants will get back in rafts at Sheephorn Creek. A BLM staff person will be positioned at Sheephorn Creek to flag and monitor participants getting into the rafts.

MITIGATION: Surveys by the BLM biologist will be made prior to the event to ensure avoidance of impacts to Harrington's penstemon are complied with at the staging area.

COMPLIANCE PLAN: On-going compliance inspections and monitoring will be conducted by the BLM Kremmling Field Office staff during and after construction. Specific mitigation developed in this document will be followed. The operator will be notified of compliance related issues in writing, and depending on the nature of the issue(s), will be provided 30 days to resolve such issues.

NAME OF PREPARER: Hannah Schechter

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:

COMPLIANCE WITH NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1. This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The Proposed Action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 apply.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Stephanie Odell
Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 7/14/2014

ATTACHMENTS:

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Kremmling Field Office
P O Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459**

DECISION RECORD

PROJECT NAME: BOEC HEMOPHILIA LEADERSHIP EVENT

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION NUMBER: DOI-BLM-LLCON02000-2014-033-CX

DECISION

It is my decision to implement the Proposed Action, as mitigated in DOI-BLM-LLCON02000-2014-033 CX, authorizing a Special Recreation Permit for the Hemophilia Leadership Event to Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center.

Mitigation Measures- BLM will have a staff person monitoring the Inspiration Flats area to make sure all participants and vehicles stay on road and off the Harrington's penstomen. Also a BLM staff will flag and monitor the Sheephorn Creek area to make sure there is minimal riparian damage.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS & CONFORMANCE WITH THE LAND USE PLAN

This decision is in compliance with the Federal Land Management and Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act. It is also in conformance with the December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999 Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP).

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

RATIONALE

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1. This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The Proposed Action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 apply.

ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES

Administrative remedies may be available to those who believe they will be adversely affected by this decision. Appeals may be made to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior, Board of Land Appeals (Board) in strict compliance with the regulations in 43 CFR Part 4. Notices of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days

after publication of this decision. If a notice of appeal does not include a statement of reasons, such statement must be filed with this office and the Board within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed. The notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs must also be served upon the Regional Solicitor, Rocky Mountain Region, U.S. Department of Interior, 755 Parfet Street, Suite 151, Lakewood, CO 80215.

The effective date of this decision (and the date initiating the appeal period) will be the date this notice of decision is posted on BLM's Kremmling Field Office internet website.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Stephanie Odell
Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 7/15/2014